Posts of Chairmen, Directors and ChieExecutives in Nationalised Bankslying vacant

1136. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KID WAI; Will the Minister of FINANCE ibe pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of posts of Chairman, Director and Chief Execu. tives of nationalised banks which are lying vacant alongwith the names of the banks; and

(b) by when these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE); (a) The present position of vacancies of whole-time and parti-time directors on the Boards of each of the nationalised bank is given in the Annexure. *(See* Appendix CLII, Annexure No. 45].

(b) Government have initiated the process for filling up the vacancies in accordance with the criteria and procedure prescribed in the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Schemes, 1970 and 1980.

Prices of rubber

1137. SHRI SHIV PRATAP' MISH RA; Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the prices of rubber are very high at present and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps have been taken to reduce the prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) During the loan production months the prices of indigenous rubber tend to go up and then with the improved supplies these get stabilised. About one month's tapping rest is given to the rubber trees during Feb—March owing to wintering and therefore the production is very low. The prices of imported rubber are, however, dependent on various factors, such international prices/taxes charges etc. levied on it.

The Government is taking all possible steps to contain the prices by resorting to adequate imports and timing their releases. Exemption or. ders for reducing import duty are also obtained as and when necessay.

Export of tea, coffee and cashewnuts

1138. DR MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI; Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) the quantum of tea, coffee and cashewnuts exported during the period from January, 1988 to February, 1990 along with the names of the countries to which these were exported.

(b) whether there has been any increase or decrease in the exports of these items and the details of the steps taken by the Govenment to encourage the exports of these items; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned through the export of these items during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU); (a) and (c) The export of tea, coffee and cashewnuts to the major countries of the world like ARE UK. Lreland, West Germany, USSR, Poland, Iran. Yogoslavia, UAE, Kuwait, Sadui Arabia, Muscat Iraq, Morocco, Afghanistan, and Japan during the period for January, 1988 to February, 1990 are as under: —

Tea		Coffee		Cashewnut	
Qty. (M. Kgs.)	Value (Rs./crores)	Qty. (Tons)	Value (Rs. crores)	Qty. (M. Ts.)	Value (Rs. crores)
*431.56	*1486.73	230.121	708.05	81276	656.22

*Jan-1988 to Jan. 1990.